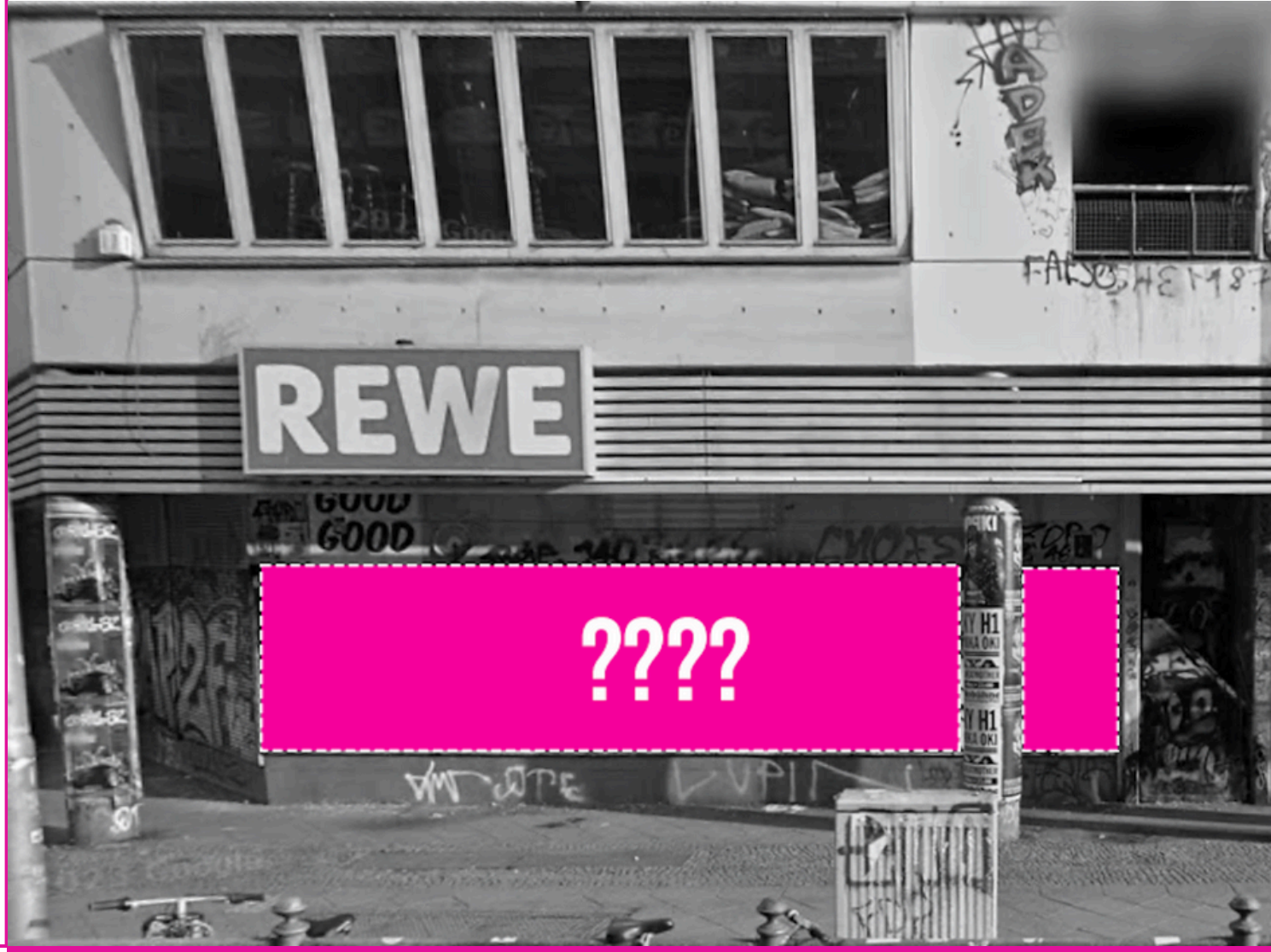
Kunst für die Stadt

Villa Aurora 30



With: Edgar Arceneaux & Zora Arceneaux, Janine Eggert, Erik Göngrich, Lukas Glinkowski and Wiebke Loeper

Art Takes Over Berlin's Urban Space:
To celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Villa Aurora artist residency, the project *Art in the City* returns for its second edition, bringing five striking new poster artworks into Berlin's public space. From October 6–19, the posters will be on view at key locations across the city, including Kottbusser Tor, Kottbusser Damm, Potsdamer Straße, RAW Area, and Alexanderplatz.

Lukas Glinkowski: Connect the Dots

Following its successful debut in May, the second edition of *Art in the City* pushes the boundaries of the traditional poster format. This edition not only reflects on the cultural dialogues between Berlin and Los Angeles but also introduces two interactive works that actively invite public participation.

At Kottbusser Damm, Los Angeles–based artists **Edgar Arceneaux & Zora Arceneaux** present ***Colors of My Home***, a work that asks: What colors remind you of „home“? On a black scratch-off surface, viewers uncover hues like “Wine Red,” “Sea Foam,” or “Midnight Purple.” By gently rubbing away the applied surface, the underlying colors are revealed. As passersby contribute, a collective, multicolored portrait of “home” gradually emerges, reflecting the diversity of the neighborhood.

On Potsdamer Straße, **Janine Eggert**’s ***Googie Horizon*** assembles eight examples of futuristic Googie architecture photographed in Los Angeles into a single, imagined skyline. This postwar American style once symbolized optimism, mobility, and consumer culture. Eggert’s montage functions simultaneously as archive and fiction—an urban silhouette that never existed, yet evokes the promise of a visionary everyday world.

At the RAW Area, **Erik Göngrich**’s ***ART HEALS*** presents art as a cycle. His poster brings together images of cars and wildfires with the words ‘ART HEALS.’ In contrast to smoke and destruction, the question unfolds whether art itself can be understood as a cycle of repair. Here, recycling takes shape not only as an ecological gesture, but also as a cultural and social necessity—one that makes our bond with the present moment tangible. Göngrich’s work asks: Could art itself, understood as a process of re-responsibility, be a healing act?

For the residents of Kreuzberg, **Lukas Glinkowski** presents ***Connect the Dots***, an interactive artwork built from more than 10,000 numbered dots. The piece traces back to his 2019 residency at Villa Aurora in Los Angeles, where he experienced the Pacific Palisades wildfires up close. Dedicated to firefighters past and present, the piece weaves natural forces, human response, and personal memory into a shared visual narrative.

At Alexanderplatz, **Wiebke Loeper**’s ***Photographs, Berlin 1996/97*** reflects on the rapid transformation of post-reunification Berlin. Her images capture a moment when iconic sites such as the TV Tower or Kino International were threatened with demolition—and when her own childhood high-rise building near Alexanderplatz disappeared. Both personal records and collective memory sites, Loeper’s photographs bridge past and present while tracing the complex layers of urban life.

The Villa Aurora is an artist residency in Los Angeles. For three decades, it has been a place of inspiration and artistic creation for fellows in the fields of film, literature, composition, and visual arts.

Villa Aurora's mission is to promote cultural exchange between Germany and the United States and to contribute to an open society by engaging with issues such as migration and exile. The focus is on the fellows, their artistic concepts and their engagement with the dynamic U.S. culture and the unique Californian landscape.

Press Contactt:
Clara Becker
clara.becker@vatmh.org
+49-(0)30-20 62 36 40

The project is funded by:
Der Regierende Bürgermeister von Berlin
BERLIN

VATMH is funded by:
Auswärtiges Amt
Der Beauftragte der Bundesregierung für Kultur und Medien